

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy he extended to their Attorney during an interview held on June 11, 2003. During the interview the Examiner stated that amending claim 4 to specify that the product or structure is "shaped into a form useful for medical related purposes," should overcome the rejection of claims 4-13 under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. However, the Examiner expressed concern about the broadness of the term "medical related purpose" in claim 4. The Examiner stated that if claim 4 was amended to specify that the coral was shaped into a form to be inserted into a living body, he would reconsider the patentability of the claims. Accordingly, to expedite the allowance of the claims, claim 4 has been amended to specify that the product or structure is shaped into a form to be implanted or inserted into a human or non-human animal body for medical or related purposes.

In addition, claims 6, 9, 10, 12 and 13 have been amended to correct their dependencies. Claim 9 has also been amended to specify that the therapeutically active substance recited in claim 8 is an antibiotic. This amendment is supported on page 12, lines 24 and 25. No new matter has been added.

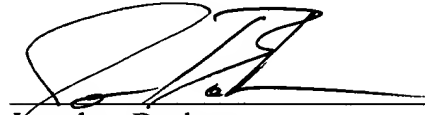
For the foregoing reasons allowance of the claims pending claims in this application is solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 229752001000.

Respectfully submitted,

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